The Cheerful Guardsmen

"Mad as a wet hen" cannot be paraphrased into "mad as a wet militiaman," for the past few days have proved a wet militiaman isn't mad. On the contrary, he is cheerful about a drenching and doesn't grumble even

when his tent is blown down and his camp flooded. Sunday night a number of Massachusetts guardsmen were on a street car inbound from the fort. been caught in the downpour at Camp Pershing and were on their way back to Camp Cotton.

"Was there any water at Camp Pershing?" one of them was asked. "You bet there was," he said with a "We all got soaked."

"Every drop was a bucketful," another volunteered.
"Whoever said it doesn't rain here was right," said a third; "I don't call it rain when it comes like that."
"Well" said a fourth, as cheerful as any, "just wait till we get to Camp Cotton. We'll probably find it

under water with our tents and equipment floating, and have to spend the rest of the night in mud and water." A drenching in the afternoon and the prospect of a night in mud and water; not a happy experience for men far from the comforts of home and not professional soldiers. But there wasn't a word of complaint. Earlier in the evening, party after party of militiamen walked toward Camp Pershing, pelted steadily by the sheets of wind driven rain; soaked to the skin and the water running from their drenched clothes; two miles from camp and the streets like rivers-and most of them were sing-

ing.
Pretty high spirited lads, those militiamen.

One thing we of the southwest seldom see any more is a man running out of a restaurant with a vehement Chinaman attached to his coattails, demanding that two

A New Mexico paper tells of an "ice cream parlor up-set by U. S. musician." Some Sampson.

The Public Defender

It is probable the legislative committee of the New Mexico Bar association may cause to be introduced in the next legislature a bill providing either for the office of a public defender or for the payment of atterneys assigned by the court to the cases of indigent defendants.

The matter was discussed at a recent meeting of the bar association. Judge Granville A. Richardson and chief justice C. J. Roberts of the New Mexico supreme court took the lead in the argument. Judge Richardson brought it up in an address on "Indigent Defendants." He spoke of the importance of some provision whereby competent counsel might be secured for the defence of all persons without funds. In conclusion, he said:

"I do not hope to say anything at this time which will result in so great interest on the part of the bar association or the people of New Mexico as to cause a legislative act to provide for public defenders, but I do hope that my observations may sow the seed which later will bring about "e required provisions for safe-guarding the interests of the prisoner at the bar when he is without means." He related experiences from his own practice and from his court and read reports which endorsed the work of the public defender in Los Angeles where the plan appears to have been tried suc-

Chief justice Roberts, proposing what is in effect a modification of the public defender plan, said it would be advisable for the state to pay attorneys appointed by the court to defend persons without money and also to pay the cost of securing a transcript of the record of the trial court to be used in appealing to the supreme court. He said there had been instances of defendants convicted in the trial courts, whose counsel were willing to appeal without pay, but were unable to do so because the defendants had no money to secure a transcript of the

The association adopted a resolution to have judge Richardson reduce his observations to writing and to

have the secretary make a synopsis of justice Roberts' suggestions in order that both might be referred to the legislative committee, and some action upon the matter is likely.

The subject of the proper defence of persons without funds is of interest to every community where destitute persons are being convicted, for in some cases an uncomfortable doubt remains whether the defendant, with idequate representation of counsel and the ability to appeal his case, might not have been acquitted. No one likes the suggestion that the mere possession of money or the lack of it could mean freedom or prison, but with the state's case handled by an efficient and well paid prosecutor and with only a hasty and perfunctory deience for the indigent defendant, it often works out that

Stock Fairs Help

For the benefit of the cattle industry, Midland, Texas, is arranging the Midland Fair and Interstate Stock show, to be held September 26-30. Hundreds of registered cattle are to be placed on exhibition for inspection by stock raisers and 100 head of registered cattle will be sold at auction. This is altogether apart from the agricultural side of the fair, but is chief in interest to the

Fairs like this are of great benefit to the cattleman who is given an opportunity to study high grade cattle of a given strain, compare them with those of another kind and decide how his own herd may best be im-proved. A sale of thoroughbred cattle following this inspection is the first step toward upbuilding the herd.

It has been found in the southwest that the way to greater profit lies in decreasing the horns and increasing the beef. The tendency now is, among enlightened cat-tlemen, to raise a heavier steer. There is always the question of what breeds are best adapted to the range. In some measure that must be decided by the individual cattleman for himself. These stock fairs help.

Restoration Of Mexican Railroads

In deciding to end the government tenure of railroads by restoring them to their owners, the de facto govern-ment of Mexico is taking a decidedly forward step toward the restoration of normal conditions. The Veracruz-Mexico City line and the Mexican Central line are to be returned to their owners as promptly as inventories can be completed, it is announced. The Southern Pacific of Mexico has Already been relinquished to private awnership. The restoration of other lines is to

follow as soon as possible. The return of the railways to their owners will be of benefit to the general public in Mexico and to owners of properties, the success of whose operations de-pends greatly on the facility with which exports of products and imports of supplies can be made. Under govent tenure, the railroads have completely subordinated all other traffic to military governments. linquishment by the government indicates a belief that

the military exigency has passed.

It will be possible, too, for the owners, having regained control of their railroad lines, to make bridge and track repairs which have made passenger and freight movements precarious, and to replenish the rolling stock, much of which is in a deplorable condition.

From the viewpoint, therefore, of the railroad owners,

the public as a whole, the heads of commercial or industrial enterprises, and the government itself, the return of the railroads is a commendable course.

Col. Henry Stroupe, commanding the Second Arkansas infantry, at Deming, is referred to as the father of his regiment. There is much truth in it. He is the father of a captain, a lieutenant and a corporal in the regiment.

The Albuquerque Herald says: "Trio of Jacks plays a losing hand in court." It has been remarked, with pain, that three jacks do not invariably constitute a winning hand outside of court.

Short Snatches From Everywhere

Not too proud to fight for reelection, anyway.-

You can whitewash almost anything but a black-list.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Gen Carrauza favors a law granting amnesty to expatriated Mexicans—after the election—Knoxville

The Allies successes would look bigger on the map if it were not such a long way to the Rhine.—Buffalo

Lord Wimborne is back on the job of lord Heu-tenant of Iteland. He will keep awake this time.— Woonsocket Call.

Milwaukee hoasts of two records broken last month-hottest weather and higgest sales of beer.— Pittsburg Gazette-Times.

Considering the Blocked business of Verdun, the estion is being asked: "Why did the kaiser raise hoy to be a soldier" — Affanta Constitution.

Almost every candidate seems to be for woman suffrage by one method or another just at this critical juncture, whether he really is or not.—Ohio State Journal.

Villa's capture was "only a matter of a few hours" some days ago, and then he dissolved into the atmosphere, as it is the privilege of a wraith to do.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

There would seem to be no prospect for relief from prevailing meteorological conditions unless Charlie Fairbanks will consent to come east and take the stump -- Boston Transcript.

Sweet potatoes are beginning to move in Texas, but since the crop is only one bushel per capita we are hoping that our bushel will not be per capitated to somebody else—Houston Post.

"Ship me somewhere east of Suez, where a man can raise a thirst" ought to be a good marching song for what is left of the Turkish expeditionary force against the canal Montreal Star.

Those editors inclined to make sport of Mr. Parker's efforts to rehabilitate the Progressive party evidently don't results the serious predicament of a somince without a party—Nashville Southern Lum-

1917 Model Car Like 1916 Only Different William Has the Same Old Appetite For Gasoline

out of the proprietor.

The 1917 model is usually brought out on the first of July, in order that the man who bought at the old price on June 16th can enjoy the Fourth with a glad heart. It requires true religion for a new driver to read a two page advertisement in three colors, offering his car for \$100 less money and offering to throw in a tire pump, withou falling on his knees and hoping that somebody will set the factory on fire in seven distinct spots. More murder is committed at long distance by the practice of shortening the price and lengthening the wheel base of automobiles on the first of july than by the treatment of Americans in Mexico.

Once in a while, however, some manufacturer who was caught in his stock-



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Claude D. Miller, manager of the Postal, says it keeps his office busy attempting to get correct addresses for messages received in El Paro.

"Telegrams come to El Paro addressed to 'John Jones, company B. El Paso,' he said. "As there is a company B in every infantry regiment, also a troop B in every cavalry regiment and a battery B in every artillery regiment and many people do not distinguish even between these troops batteries and companies, often writing company when they mean battery or troop—it is aimost impossible to deliver such a message. Some messages have been received at our office addressed merely to 'Private John Jones, Seventh division, El Paso.' Some of them merely come addressed to 'Private John Jones, Seventh regiment, El Paso.' We do the best we can with such messages, usually wiring back to the point of origin for a better address. If this cannot be given, we use the telephone and try to ascertain the location of the man. Then we try messenger work all day trying to locate a man insufficiently addressed. The message probably came as a night letter and brought the telegraph company fifty cents at the point of origin. It costs us more than that, often, to deliver the message here. Not only is it costly to the telegraph companies, but the messages here. Not only is it costly to the telegraph companies, but the messages are delayed for hours, when, if the proper address had been supplied, the message in El Paso.'

Letters quite frequently arrive at the postoffice addressed to El Paso.

been supplied, the message would have reached its destination in half an hour or sooner after arriving in El Paso."

Letters quite frequently arrive at the postoffice addressed to El Paso. Mexico, but this does not trouble the postal authorities. There is but one El Paso where a soldiers' letter ought to go, so the postal clerks throw everything to El Paso. Texas, and, if it has the proper regimental number upon it, the letter reaches its destination without delay. Soldiers should be careful, when writing their relatives, to caution them to address mail and telegrams properly, giving company, troop or hattery, and the regiment. If this is done, there will be no delay.

A letter came to one of the camps the other day just addressed "George———— U. S. Army. El Paso, Texas." The letter was posimarked Detroit, so the inference was that it was intended for a Detroit man in a Michigan regiment. The letter was sent down to the regiment, and, while there are several Georges in the two regiments, one of the clerks happened to know a man whose nickname is "George" opened the letter and sure enough it was for him, from a girl who had been at the station when the Detroit company left home. She had taken a fancy to him, but did not know his last name and was not thoughful enough even to nut on the envelope the fact that he belonged to a Michigan regiment.

"Eggs laid today. John Reid." This is the "artless ad" sign that appears on the front of a house on the county road near Ysleta. Those who read the sign take it to mean that Mr. Reid refers to his heas.

El Pasoans always make good, Even the El Pasoans always make good. Even the El Paso boys and girls keep up the



National Guardsmen Eat Much When Downtown Tourists Want Postcards of Dead and Dying

M. but the guardsmen are big eaters" said P. Brown, a waiter at the Paso del Norte. They hardly get up from a dinner cirilout baying apent from \$250 to \$1. The other day 12 of them had a bancher here and the bill for the eats alone was \$130. Here's the average bill of fure for a national guardsman, Cantaloupe, 70. fruit saind, 50 canape on toast, 50 half spring chicken, 75, corn on the cob. 15, care parfait, 25. This makes a total of \$255."

Souvenir postcarus showing scenes of executions in Mexico, as well as those containing views of the victims corpses.

REDLIGHTS AND MEX.

Editor El Paso Heraid:

In Thursiny's Heraid, a letter bearling on the immorality of this city, and signed "A Mother," caused me to take up my pen to express my surprise on the attitude taken by various peop's of El Paso regarding the subject. Now I would say comphatically, I am significant immorality in whatever form, and feet that a mighty battle should be waged against red light districts everywhere. They should not be tolerated in any should do his or her best to help stamp them out, but why blame El Paso for the rotten morals of a lot of single or married men, as the case may be? El Paso may be bad—probably is—but it is no worse thus any of the eastern cities from which these men come, and

C. L. Sherwood, manager of Primm's igas stores has returned home from his vacation.

Summer Fighting

THE Germans and French, in the field and the trench, still brandish their red snickersness; they slash at their foes, though the mercury shows it's up above 4 90 degrees. If I had to scrap all over the map, I'd surely be frightfully bored; I'd hate to be shot when the weather is hot, I'd hate to be sliced with a sword. I've nothing to do but to simmer and stew, and punish the pink lemonade; and yet I complain of the torture and strain, while loafing around in the shade. I sit in the swing and I mutter, "By jing, this heat is a punishment dire; and I'll wager my purse that I wouldn't feel worse if I sat with my feet in a fire." But what would I say if there ambled my way a warrior bold, with a gun? And what would I think if he filled me with zine, and old rusty nails by the ton? All melting my grease but I'm melting in peace, and ought to be cheerful and serve I'd. my grease, but I'm melting in peace, and ought to be cheerful and gay; I'd hate to be shot when the weather is hot, I'd hate to be scrapping all day. WALT MASON. Copyright, by George Matthew Adams.

EL PASO HERALD

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